



18 March 2010 – Edition 4 :1 :10

Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me (Matt 16.24)  
May the power of the cross inspire us to ensure the harsh realities of life and to see through them to the bright vision of a world transformed by the power of God's love.  
Amen

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear families,

This week, Catholic Education Week the staff of Catholic Regional College gathered as an entire group. We have this opportunity once a year where we join together for Mass and a professional development seminar. This year Bishop Tim Costello spoke on the role we have as educators in our Federation of schools as Catholic schools and Catholic educators. His presentation aligns with our history and the vision for the Federation of Catholic Regional Colleges.

In 1977 representatives of the parishes of St Albans, Melton, Bacchus Marsh, Sunbury and Airport West met with Bishop J. O'Connell to express their concern about the growing number of young Catholics not able to secure Catholic Secondary Education in the west of Melbourne. The result of this meeting was the decision to commence work on a complex of Colleges which would operate as a single Federation known as Catholic Regional College.

In February 1978, the first Catholic Regional College, for students from Years 7-10, opened in St Albans. While it would cater for students in its surrounding area, those from Bacchus Marsh and Melton were still without Catholic secondary education. In 1979, planning for a further 7-10 College to be sited in Bulman's Road Melton began and in February 1980, Catholic Regional College Melton opened.

By 1981, St Albans had students in Year 10 who required a College at which to complete their final two years of education. In anticipation, a planning committee had begun work so that in January 1982 a senior College, to take Year 11 and 12 students from Melton and St Albans, opened at Sydenham.

That same year it was noted that students from East Keilor and Avondale Heights, together with girls from Sunbury, were still without Catholic secondary education opportunity. With the support of the Essendon Parishes, the decision was made to open a third 7-10 campus in North Keilor. In 2007, the fifth campus at Caroline Springs was opened and the decision made for the Melton campus to move to Years 11 and 12 when the Caroline Springs students started attending Sydenham in 2011.

It is apparent that the key factor which has brought into existence the five colleges which form the Federation of Catholic Regional College has been an unwavering commitment by all those involved to the call to mission given by Jesus and carried by the Church. First expressed by the then Assistant Director of Catholic Education, Fr Martin in 1962, it enabled the original pioneers of the project to step out in trust and faith. Today this vision, symbolized in a single school crest, is entrusted to all those, staff, students and parents, who follow.

The vision of CRC is symbolised in the wearing of a single crest by students of all five Colleges in the Federation.

At the heart of the vision of the Federation Catholic Regional College, and touching all that it does, stands the Eucharist. The most profound of all Catholic rituals, the Eucharist makes visible the Christ we seek to know. In the Eucharist we find ourselves; called, invited and challenged.

Jesus taught that his disciples must be prepared to serve. The cross reminds us of our life journey, walked in the

companionship of others. It speaks of our obligation to be a distinctive community; to be followers who lead with compassion and teach with love. In the shadow of the cross we find hope for a promised future.

As a formal educational endeavour, Catholic Regional College seeks to live a spirit of learning which celebrates personal excellence and values individual achievement. In the symbol of the open, unfinished book, we proclaim ourselves as a people open to the possibility of what is to come.

In the five stars of the Southern Cross, we identify the broad Australian context within which the Federation operates. In acknowledging the cultural, social, economic and spiritual diversity within the families of the Western Suburbs of Melbourne in which we have chosen to minister, we recognise the traditional owners of the land on which our Colleges are built, the Wurundjeri tribe.

Encompassing all, the ellipse demonstrates the binding commitment each College has to the other and to the vision we uphold. Deliberately different, the ellipse holds fast to the lived reality of the Federation of Catholic Regional College, without parallel in the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

It is in its daily organization and operation that the Federation of Catholic Regional College demonstrates its commitment to this vision. From a basis of mutual respect and understanding, each college stands as an independent unit connected to a larger whole.

The Parish Priests of the nine feeder parishes which the Federation serves are appointed Canonical Administrators under the chairmanship of the local Bishop and Deputy chair Fr John O'Reilly. The College operates under the governance of a single College Council. This Council draws membership from the nine Parish Priests, the five Principals, accountants, consultants and parish reps together with the Religious Education Coordinator representative and Business manager. A single Finance Committee oversees the financial operations of the College and reports to the Council. Commitment to the vision of mutual support is demonstrated in financial arrangements which ensure that the burden of each College is not onerous.

The five College Principals meet with Fr O'Reilly every week to consider matters of mutual interest and to offer support to each other. Curriculum issues are raised at the Federation Board of Studies which provides a forum for discussion across Years 7-12. This group also ensures that provision is made for the Key Learning Area Coordinators at each College to meet regularly.

In addition to the formal organisational structures, the College also facilitates a spirit of collegiality and a sense of connectedness through regular gatherings of all staff.

Other combined sporting and academic interactions include the LOTE overseas trips; VCE study for Year 10 students at Sydenham, and Liturgical activities, and Intercampus professional development.

More than 3500 students and almost 400 staff currently find themselves as part of the Catholic Regional College community. It is our hope that, in our history, vision and life, they will find a unique community of faith; one which teaches, proclaims and lives the Eucharist in all it does.

Yours sincerely,

Brendan J Watson OAM - Principal



## INTERIM REPORTS

Interim Report will be available at the Parent/Student/Teacher interviews. These reports serve a distinct purpose. They provide a timely update for parents and students in regard to both their academic progress and their attitude and effort in their studies. It is important to recognise that these reports are not designed to be a detailed insight into your child's performance during the preceding seven weeks but to clarify how they are progressing. Naturally the end-of-semester reports will provide a detailed insight into your children's performance in their VCE or VCAL. The parent/student/teacher interviews complement the Interim Reports.

**We would like to invite all parents / guardians and students to**

### **PARENT / STUDENT/ TEACHER INTERVIEWS**

WEDNESDAY 24 March (11.00AM – 8.30PM)

The Parent/Student/Teacher interviews are scheduled at this important time of the year to allow parents the opportunity to speak directly to staff about their children's progress, and to explore strategies that will enhance their educational performance in both the VCE and VCAL. Students will be provided with a booking sheet to organize these important interviews with their teachers. Where teachers have a particular concern in relation to the performance of a particular student they will indicate this on the booking sheet, requesting that parents attend an interview with the named teachers. Teaching staff will be available to discuss your child's progress and any concerns you may have. The Interim report will indicate two codes for these Interviews, 'E' for encouraged – this is an open invitation to parents; 'C' for compulsory – this is a specific request that parents attend due to a concern that teachers have in relation to a student's progress. This will match the information provided on your booking form. We look forward to seeing you at the interviews.

Please Note: This is a student free day for all classes except for external VET subjects, and those subjects listed below:

#### VET:

Fashion Design	11 am-4pm	Julianna Paci
Business Admin.	11 am-4pm	Stephen Woolmer
Music Industry	11 am-4pm	Leigh Askew
Comm Rec. & Fitness	11 am-4pm	Adam Ray
Community Services	1.30-5.30pm	Dianne Wooley
Sign Writing	9am-5pm	Craig McFarlane
Picture Framing	9am-5pm	Rocco Siciliano
Baking	9am-5pm	Peter Haber
Hospitality	4pm-9.30pm	Nick Weiler

#### VCE:

Geography	11 am-4pm	Alison Mahoney
International Politics	11 am-4pm	Damian Veltri

The staff named above will not be available for interviews during the above times, as they will be teaching.

The following staff will be accompanying our students to East Timor and will also be unavailable: Paul Reed, Bernie Flinn and Megan Hill.

The following staff will be hosting our Italian Sister School Students and teachers and will also be unavailable: Helene van Iersel and Claire Mc Groarty.

Part-time staff will be available from 4.00pm onwards. They will communicate their availability to students via the booking form. Parents can make alternative arrangements to speak to the staff who are not available for these interviews.

## EXTENDED ABSENCE

For students to learn in Year 11 and 12 they need to be present at the College. Attendance is monitored at each lesson to ensure that students meet the minimum attendance as required by the VCAA. Students who do not meet these external attendance requirements will jeopardize their studies in the VCE and VCAL. Parents are advised to consider delaying any extended holidays or travel during these final years of secondary education. If the absence is significant students may need to consider deferring their study, extending their VCE over three years, or enrolling in Distance Education. If an extended absence/ holiday is being considered parents are required to notify the College Principal in writing.

## USB

Students are required to have their own USBs as indicated on the Booklists. The College has invested heavily on IT infrastructure and a significant number of new computers. Students need to have USBs to take full advantage of the portability of their work and information that they undertake in classtime, to continue this where necessary at home.



**CRAIG HOLMES - DEPUTY PRINCIPAL - LEARNING AND TEACHING**

## PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

### ***Results, Scaling and the Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR)***

Are you confused about Year 12 results and the calculation of the ATAR? On Wednesday 24 March parents will have an opportunity to attend an information session covering information about results, the impact of scaling, the calculation of the ATAR (Previously called the ENTER), and destination data for our 2009 Year 12 graduates.

To ease the burden of having to attend the College on two separate nights, this session will take place on the same day as Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews for Term 1.

**Date: Wednesday 24 March**

**Time: 6pm-7pm**

**Venue: Room A1 & A2 CRC Sydenham**

## GAP YEAR OVERSEAS

**Lattitude Global Volunteering** are holding an information night in Melbourne on Wednesday 24 March for any interested students and family members to find out more about taking a gap year in 2011 and volunteering with Lattitude overseas. Returned volunteers, parents of returned volunteers and staff will be available to answer any questions about the placements available in Europe, Africa, Asia, the Americas, Australia and the Pacific.

The session will be held at:

Level 1, 95 Johnston St. Fitzroy

Interested parties are invited to come along any time from 6pm to 9pm for an informal discussion with our representatives. Formal presentations will be given at 7pm and 8pm. Students are encouraged to register their interest to attend at [www.lattitude.org.au](http://www.lattitude.org.au).

Pauline Jakobovic - Pathways Coordinator

## FEDERATION SPRAY JACKETS

This year the CRC Federation introduced a Federation spray jacket as a part of the PE Uniform. This is to be worn in winter over the rugby top when it is cold. The introduction of the item was in response to PE staff and parents providing feedback that the PE uniform was not sufficiently warm enough when in blustery wintery conditions at various sporting venues. The spray jacket is not to be worn with normal school uniform and does not replace the blazer. The outer garment for the normal uniform remains the blazer.

## **TECHNOLOGY FACULTY WEEK ~ 15 - 19 MARCH**

The 15 - 19 March is Technology Faculty Week at CRC Sydenham. Faculty week gives all members of the College community the opportunity to celebrate the achievements and talents of our students. The Technology subjects being celebrated include; Information Technology, Food & Technology, Design & Technology – Wood and Fabrics, and Certificate II in Applied Fashion. The Technology Faculty Week coincides with two major events happening in Melbourne – The Melbourne Food & Wine Festival and the L'Oreal Melbourne Fashion Festival as these events are related to the subjects in the Technology Faculty. The celebration of Technology here at CRC Sydenham include a number of events held to allow students to show off the amazing talents of our technology students. These were held on the green and thanks to all those who came to watch. Events include the following;

### **Monday 15 March**

A Furniture Design competition by Design & Technology – Wood students. Students showed off their design skills by making functional furniture out of cardboard boxes and tape.

### **Thursday 18 March**

An Easter Cupcake decorating competition. Food & Technology students competed against each other creating amazing cupcake decorations.

### **Friday 19 March**

Year 11 & 12 Fashion students created 15<sup>th</sup> Century fashion out of newspapers.

A Band Hero competition where IT and other students competed together to demonstrate their skills



The events were all judged on the level of creativity and prizes were. Congratulations to all participants.

As well as celebrating our students skills, the Technology Faculty also focused on career promotion in our subjects. Working with technology can be both exciting and challenging. A Technology based career can lead to a variety of areas. In terms of Information Technology, a career in Information, Communication and Technology offers exciting and diverse job opportunities. ICT professionals are in demand across all sectors of the economy in Australia and around the world. ICT opens the door to a great salary, variety of work and the chance to travel to all corners of the globe. Because of the importance of information and the crucial role it plays in many organisations, many computing professionals become well informed on the operations of a company. That, together with their training, makes them good candidates for management positions at later stages in their careers

In order to provide CRC Sydenham students with more information on Technology careers, two guest speakers attended to the College to address our students :

**Monday 15 March** - A female guest speaker from IBM spoke to students regarding females working in the ICT industry.

**Friday 19 March** – A Mechatronics Engineer who will speak to students about engineering tertiary courses and future careers.



For further information on Technology subjects or Technology-related career paths please do not hesitate to contact members of the Faculty;

Carolyn Slattery (Technology Coordinator and Food and Technology) – [slay@crtsydenham.net](mailto:slay@crtsydenham.net)

Julianna Paci (Design & Technology - Fabrics, Cert II in Fashion) – [paci@crtsydenham.net](mailto:paci@crtsydenham.net)

Elliot Gorham (Design & Technology – Wood) – [gore@crtsydenham.net](mailto:gore@crtsydenham.net)

Claire McGroaty (Information Technology) – [mcgc@crtsydenham.net](mailto:mcgc@crtsydenham.net)

For further information on ICT careers:

<https://www.acs.org.au/ictcareers/> The Australian Computer Society careers section is for people who have an interest in careers in computing and Information Technology.

[www.education.gov.au](http://www.education.gov.au) The Federal Government's education website. Career and training info, newsletters and up-to-date contacts.

[www.gocareer.gov.au](http://www.gocareer.gov.au) Enterprise and career education from the Federal government.

[www.myfuture.edu.au](http://www.myfuture.edu.au) Brings together comprehensive information on the labour market, education, training and jobs in Australia.

Thank you to all of the students who participated in the events held during Technology Faculty Week. Thank you also to the Certificate II Printing students and Year 11 IT students who designed posters advertising events. Congratulations to Jonathon Bourban, Kurtis Reid, Jake Reedman, Andrew Ferreri and Matthew Blanco who designed the chosen posters.

**CAROLYN SLATTERY - TECHNOLOGY CO-ORDINATOR**

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### DRAMA AND ITALIAN PERFORMANCE

The drama and Italian performance, *La Commedia dell'Arte*, on Thursday 4 March was a wonderful experience for both Italian students and drama students. Though it was mainly a drama based performance, it was a great way to see the Italian language in action. From it, we were able to see how to show expression and emotion when speaking and how it can lead to better understanding of what is being said – as well as making it more exciting. It was definitely a performance worth seeing and experiencing (thanks to the workshop!), as it was both funny and a great way to learn new insights into the language.

**DANIEL ZAROSINSKY**  
YEAR 12 ITALIAN



### SACCSS SWIMMING CARNIVAL



On Thursday the 4 March our swimmers took part in the annual SACCSS Swimming carnival at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre. Coached by Jade Barr and Kristy Charles. Our swimmers took to the pool and performed admirably throughout the day and into the night.

Our captains Benson Mok and Samantha Hockey led the team very well and the standout swimmers for the night were two Year 11 students Kirsten Sullivan and Luke Kennedy who swam in a combined 12 events over the night.

Overall we performed very well, but unfortunately we came up against some very strong opposition. The team should be very proud of their achievements coming 2<sup>nd</sup> overall.

I would also like to thank Bianca Stepic, Christine Grima, Kirsten Spiteri and Aaron Pabst for providing support, assistance and their photography skills on the night but a big thanks must go to Jade and Kristy for giving up their mornings to train and commute the swimmers to and from Melton Waves.

**ADAM RAY - SPORT COORDINATOR**



### COLLEGE FEE PAYMENT DATES FOR TERM 1

**Full fees paid by 23 March will receive \$100 discount.** If you experience any difficulties making payments by the due voucher dates, please call the Business Manager - Cheryl Howard on 9361 0000 to discuss options.

Fortnightly	Monthly	Term
26 February	20 February	2 March
12 March	20 March	
26 March		

### ST. DOMINIC'S DEBUTANTE BALL

The St Dominic's Debutante Ball for 2010 will be held at Luxor on Friday 17 September 2010. That is the last Friday of Term 3. We still have some vacancies for this ball.

There are nine practices from 6-8pm on Thursday nights at Luxor. The cost for Debutantes and Partners is \$260 each.

Any young ladies wishing to be presented at this ball can phone Sue 97432941 or Robyn 97433174 by March 5.

## LOOKING AHEAD

### Important Dates

Friday 19 March	Yr. 11 Group A & B Outdoor Education trips Bay Cruise / Otways Italian School at CRC Sydenham
Saturday 20 March	Italian School at CRC Sydenham
Sunday 21 March	East Timor Trip departs
Monday 22 March	SACCSS Senior Sports Day
Wednesday 24 March	Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews 11.00 am - 8.30 pm College Hall

### Important Dates

Friday 26 March	Easter Vigil Last day of Term 1 for all students finishing at 3.30 pm
Monday 12 April	Term 2 begins

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